

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5868

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 5799

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: VESCO ACCUSES RECHNITZER, LA REPUBLICA

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, VESCO ATTORNEY JOSE MARIA PLA ENTERED A FORMAL ACCUSATION IN CRIMINAL COURT AFTERNOON DEC. 7 AGAINST ARCHITECT CARLOS RECHNITZER AND OPPOSITION DAILY LA REPUBLICA CHARGING THEM WITH SLANDER AND INJURY. FIRST PENAL COURT JUDGE ZEIDI RUDIN IS STUDYING THE DOCUMENTS PRESENTED BY PLA TO DETERMINE WHETHER ENOUGH EVIDENCE EXISTS TO ACCEPT THE CASE.

2. COMMENTING ON THE UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT, RECHNITZER WELCOMED THE MOVE INDICATING THAT HE "WILL BE DECLARED INNOCENT AND THE FINANCIER (VESCO) WILL AUTOMATICALLY REMAIN GUILTY, THE MATTER NOT BEING APPEALABLE." VESCO'S ATTORNEY, HE OPINED, ERRED IN MAKING THE ACCUSATION. IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW DECEMBER 8, LA REPUBLICA'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR, JULIO RODRIGUEZ, SAID THE NEWSPAPER WOULD STUDY THE ACCUSATIONS. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS STRANGE LA REPUBLICA HAD BEEN SINGLED OUT, AS OTHER COSTA RICAN NEWSPAPERS, NOTABLY LA NACION AND LA PRENSA LIBRE, HAD ALSO PUBLICLY CRITICIZED VESCOIS. HE HAD NO FURTHER COMMENTS TO MAKE.

3. RECHNITZER ALSO DECLARED THAT DURING END OF DECEMBER-BEGINNING OF JANUARY HE WILL BRING TO COSTA RICA MORE PROOF AGAINST VESCO. HE SAID THAT TO DO THIS HE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SIMON NUSSBAU. NUSSBAUM, HE
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INDICATED, MIGHT COME TO COSTA RICA TO ASSIST

HIM IN HIS CASE AGAINST VESCO.

4. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE REPORTED AS AVAILABLE.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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